bodies should be supported in their efforts to create special employment facilities, including worksheds for tiny manufacturers.

6. The shelter programme should be used to provide employment to the urban poor.

7. Wage employment for the urban poor should be provided through a programme for creation of such urban assets as water supply, drainage systems, land development, etc.

8. The public distribution system should be strengthened to meet the consumption requirements of the poor.

9. Community development should be the strategy for the improvement of the living conditions of the poor and an Urban Community Agency should be set up one at national level.

As a follow-up on these recommendations, the Nehru Rozgar Yojana was launched in October, 1989 as a measure of employment generation for the urban poor. The scheme of Urban Basic Services is already under implementation since 1986-87.

Settlement of Old Industrial Disputes

483. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Industrial Disputes Tribunal and Labour Courts under the Delhi Administration had recently been instructed to settle old disputes as soon as possible and that no such disputes should be postponed further and also that early dates should be fixed therefor; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what criteria would be applied in determining old disputes?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Administration is at present treating industrial disputes pending for 5 years or more as "old cases." In order to expedite the disposal of such cases, frequent review meetings are being held by the Secretary (Labour), Delhi Administration with the Presiding Officers of Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals. The Presiding Officers have also been advised to give priority to old cases and grant short adjournment in case it is unavoildable. Besides, the Delhi Administration is also exploring the possibility of recourse to Lok Adalats for expediting disposal of long pending cases.

Accident of 8 Down Toofan Express near Mughalsarai

484. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the detials of the accident of 8 Down Toofan Express near Mughalsarai while going from New Delhi on November 1, 1989;

(b) the number of persons killed and injured in the said accident;

(c) the cause of the accident; and

(d) the details of compensation provided to the kith and kin of the persons killed and to the injured persons?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) On 1.11.89, while No. 3008 Dn. Udyan Abha Toofan Express was passing through Sakaldiha station of Eastern Railway, its engine and 10 coaches derailed. Of the 10 derailed coaches, 8 capsized.

(b) In this accident, 50 persons lost their lives while 66 persons sustained injuries including 43 grievous.

(c) The accident is being inquired into by the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety.

(d) Claims of compensation are to be preferred to and decided by the Railway Claims Tribunal. However, an amount of Rs. 5,57,250/- has been paid as *ex-gratia* by the Railway Administration.